

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03341 040623Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /020 W
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P R 040519Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1131

UNCLAS KUWAIT 3341

DEPT. FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP
SUBJECT: DOHA WEST POWER PROJECT

REF: USDOC 10422

1. IN RESPONSE OUR QUERY, UNDERSECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PORTS AND CUSTOMS, SAID THAT TECHNICALLY PRODUCTS SUCH AS TURBINES, SPARE PARTS FOR TURBINES, ETC., ARE SUBJECT TO 4 PERCENT CUSTOMS DUTY WHICH APPLIES TO MOST PRODUCTS IMPORTED TO KUWAIT. HOWEVER, SINCE CUSTOMS DUTY ON TURBINES FOR DOHA PROJECT WOULD MERELY MEAN GOVERNMENT TAKING MONEY OUT OF ONE POCKET AND PUTTING IT BACK IN ANOTHER, DUTY SHOULD BE IRRELEVANT TO FINAL BID PRICE. HE SUGGESTED THAT BIDDER INCLUDE 4 PERCENT CUSTOMS DUTY IN BID, BUT WITH CAVEAT THAT BIDDER ASSUMES THAT DUTY WILL NOT BE IMPOSED AND, IN THIS CASE, BID WOULD BE LOWER BY WHATEVER AMOUNT 4 PERCENT ON VALUE OF TURBINES AND SPARE PARTS COMES TO.

2. BY KUWAITI CONTRACTING REGULATIONS THE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY TO WHICH BIDS ARE SUBMITTED HAS THE OPTION TO WAIVE PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES BY THE TENDERING FIRM. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER (MEW) HAS DONE THIS ON NUMEROUS PROJECTS PUT OUT TO
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TENDER IN THE PAST AND IS LIKELY TO DO SO ON THE WEST DOHA PROJECT. HENCE INCLUSION OF 4 PERCENT DUTY IN BID WOULD MERELY BE PRO-FORMA EXERCISE.
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: DOHA WEST POWER PROJECT
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